

THE
Urban District Council
OF
Lye & Wollescote.

Chairman :

MR. J. T. WORTON.

Vice-Chairman :

MR. J. E. HILL.

Members :

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Mr. JOSEPH BROOKS, | Mr. G. H. RHODES, |
| „ JOHN BROOKS, | „ R. T. WEBSTER, |
| „ JEREMIAH BROOKS, | „ JAMES HILL, |
| Mr. AMOS PERRINS. | |

Medical Officer of Health :

H. CHRISTOPHER DARBY, L.F.P.S., &c.

Public County Analyst :

CECIL COOKE DUNCAN, F.I.C

Clerk :

Mr. W. S. MOBBERLEY.

Surveyor :

Mr. H. P. F. WEAVER.

Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. B. THOMPSON.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29748392>

LYE AND WOLLESCOTE
Urban District Council.

REPORT
OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
From January 1st to December 31st, 1900.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Lye and Wollescote
Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my fourth ANNUAL REPORT.

Birth Rate. The Birth Rate was higher than that of England and Wales during 1900, and the Death Rate was lower than that of England and Wales during the same period.

| | | | | |
|------------|---------------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| BIRTH RATE | { Lye | ... | ... | 32.9 per 1000 |
| COMPARED | { England and Wales | | | 28.9 ,," |

Death Rate To be able to record a lower general Death Rate than that

of England and Wales, in spite of Measles, and Scarlet Fever, is a source of pleasure to me, as I feel sure it will be gratifying to you. The Death Rate compared stands thus—

| | | | |
|------------|---------------------|---------|---------------|
| DEATH RATE | } Lye | | 17·3 per 1000 |
| COMPARED | } England and Wales | 18·3 | „ |

Infant Mortality.

The Infant Mortality also is lower than that of England and Wales. This also is especially worthy of note when we remember that in the three years previous it was very high.

It stands thus—

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------|----------------------|
| DEATHS OF CHILDREN | 1897 | ... 178 | |
| UNDER 1 YEAR | 1898 | ... 170 | |
| PER 1000 BIRTHS | 1899 | ... 181 | |
| REGISTERED. | 1900 | ... 150 | —England & Wales 154 |

Births.

The number of Births during the year was 379 (as compared with 396 for last year)

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----|
| of these 196 were males | } | 379 |
| and 183 were females | | |

The Birth Rate for the district being 32·9 per 1000 (as compared with 34·5 last year).

Deaths.

The number of Deaths registered during the year was 200 (as compared with 193 last year)

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----|
| of these 102 were males | } | 200 |
| and 98 were females | | |

The Death rate for the district being 17·3 per 1000 (as compared with 16·8 last year).

The ages at which the above mentioned deaths took place are as follows :—

| | | | 1900 | 1899 | 1898 | 1897 |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|
| Under 1 year | ... | ... | ... | 57 | 72 | 65 |
| 1 year and under 5 years | ... | ... | ... | 49 | 26 | 42 |
| 5 „ „ 15 „ „ | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 6 | 8 |
| 15 „ „ 25 „ „ | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 6 | 9 |
| 25 „ „ 65 „ „ | ... | ... | ... | 45 | 46 | 44 |
| 65 „ and upwards | ... | ... | ... | 37 | 37 | 32 |
| TOTALS... | | | 200 | 193 | 200 | 173 |

Deaths of Children under 1 year—of 200 deaths 57 were under 1 year.

There is a marked decrease in the deaths at this age, the average for the three previous years being 68 ; and it is worthy of note that of the 57 deaths in children under 1 year of age 17 were prematurely born, and died within a few days of birth.

The increase in deaths from 1 to 5 years is due to the epidemic of Measles and Scarlet Fever.

health
missioner.

In response to the request made by the Urban Council to the County Council, the latter body appointed a Health Missioner to the district. The first person sent expressed herself as "not the right person for the work here," and resigned.

Her successor—Miss Long, appears to have ingratiated herself with the people, and is, I believe doing good work, in fact the above-shown reduction in the Infant Mortality is difficult to account for except upon the score of her influence and teaching, especially when we consider that two epidemics (*i.e.*) Scarlet Fever and

Measles have visited us this year.

| | |
|--|------|
| Streets visited by the Health Missioner ... | 36 |
| Visits paid (to January 25th, 1901) ... | 1177 |
| Addresses given to Mothers' Meetings, &c.... | 5 |
| Infants under 1 year visited ... | 178 |

**Zymotic
Diseases.**

The deaths under this heading were from the following diseases—

Comparison is made by tables with previous years.

| | 1900 | 1899 | 1898 | 1897 |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Measles ... | 27 | 0 | 25 | 1 |
| Diarrhœa | 7 | 29 | 24 | 18 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 1 | 1 | 8 | 1 |
| Enteric Fever | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Scarlet Fever | 5 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Croup | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| | 44 | 38 | 64 | 24 |

In connection with the apparent reduction in the deaths from Diarrhœa, it may be remarked that many diseases formerly included under that heading have been excluded in accordance with the regulations recently issued by the Local Government Board.

Scarlet Fever and Measles. Both these diseases have been prevalent during the latter half of the year. They were mostly isolated at home, the prejudice amongst the inhabitants against sending their children to the Isolation hospital is very strong. Probably when there is increased, and better accommodation provided, as I hope will shortly be the case when the New Hospital in course of erection is completed, there will be less difficulty in this direction.

There were 68 cases of Scarlet Fever reported—
of these 8 were removed to Hospital.
and 5 died at home and 1 in hospital.

Measles. Measles is not notified in this district, but was very prevalent, and accounted for 27 deaths.

Whooping Cough. This disease has only caused one death, though I have reason to believe there have been many cases, and there will most likely be others following in the train of the measles epidemic.

Diphtheria. Of 3 cases notified, 2 died, one was secondary to measles.

Erysipelas 12 cases notified this year as against
18 cases in 1899.
and 20 „ „ 1898.

There has been no death from this disease during the last three years,

Enteric Fever Amongst 21 cases notified there were 2 deaths at home,— 6 were sent to the hospital, of these 3 died. There were 27 cases the year previous, and 6 deaths —8 sent to hospital, of these 1 died.

As Dr. Fosbroke has pointed out in his Special Report, this disease is endemic in this locality, and is probably due to sub-soil pollution. The gradual substitution of various forms of

water closets for the old privy midden system, which is taking place, will in time no doubt reduce the number of cases.

Disinfection

& Fumigation.

In Typhoid Fever—St. Bede Disinfectant is used and is found very convenient.

After all Fevers the houses are disinfected with liquefied Sulphur Dioxoid Gas (Boake, Roberts & Co.) which has been on trial. The Sanitary Inspector reports that it is very efficacious.

Certainly a point very much in its favour is that it does away with any danger from fire of which I think there is always an element in the use of other forms of sulphur.

The Urban Council having requested me to give my opinion upon the SO_2 after six months use, I do so here, and would state that in my opinion this method of disinfection is much more convenient, very efficacious, and safer than the old method of burning sulphur in the room.

Dairies and Cowsheads.

Having made a personal inspection of these, I find they are in very fair order, in one or two cases infringements of the Bye-Laws such as open drains in Dairies were in existence. These were the most serious infringements, as I pointed out to the Council and the Clerk was directed to write the owners calling their attention to the defects, which the Clerk has done.

House Accommodation

The demand for houses still continues. The class of houses being erected is improving the appearance and sanitary condition of the district.

Plans Passed

29 Plans have been passed during the year.

22 New Houses erected and 9 alterations effected.

6 Workshops erected.

| Number of Inhabited Houses. | | 1891 | 1898 | 1899 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| Lye | ... | 1331 | 1507 | 1514 | 1523 |
| Wollescote | ... | 644 | 716 | 728 | 745 |
| Lye and Wollescote | ... | 1975 | 2223 | 2242 | 2268 |

Population.

The table below shews the increase of population.

A paragraph taken from Scott's History of Stourbridge and its vicinity may be interesting in this connection. It reads thus—"In 1813 some active members of the Building Society enumerated the inhabitants of the two villages, producing the following result, viz:—

| | FAMILIES. | POPULATION. |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Lye ... | 254 | 1272 |
| Lye Waste | 287 | 1554 |
| | 541 | 2826 |

The part of Wollescote not included in Lye in the above named, would probably contain only a few houses and few people—only four houses in Wollescote are named.

| | YEAR. | POPULATION. |
|---|-------|-------------|
| Scott's History | 1813 | 2826 |
| Census return | 1881 | 9283 |
| Census return | 1891 | 10165 |
| Estimated to middle of | 1900 | 11503 |
| Increase of population from census 1881 to 1891 | ... | 873 |
| Probable increase since 1813 | ... | 8677 |

House Connections.

89 connections have been made to 194 houses. The Council have taken a very important step in connection with the house connections, in that they have decided to raise a loan to complete the work.

Tippers.

27 Tipper Closets have been put in.

**Slaughter
Houses**

My report after re-visiting the slaughter houses showed that some were still infringing the Bye-Laws, but the Council are making every effort to remedy the existing defects.

**Annexed
Tables**

With regard to columns 10 and 11 in table I. In order to comply with the request of the Local Government Board as to the "deaths of residents occurring outside the district," and of "non-residents occurring within the district," I would suggest that it would assist Medical Officers in furnishing the necessary details in their Reports, if Registrars were requested to report any death of a person from another district to the Medical Officer of Health of the district from which the person had come.

**Deaths in
Public
Institutions**

The following deaths of residents took place in Public Institutions outside the district—

| | | |
|----------------------|-----|----|
| Wordsley Workhouse | ... | 5 |
| Corbett Hospital | .. | 4 |
| Joint Fever Hospital | ... | 4 |
| <hr/> | | |
| | | 13 |

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

February, 1900.

H. C. DARBY.

TABLE A.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for 1900.

LYE AND WOLLESCOTE URBAN DISTRICT.

Area in acres, 784.
Estimated population 1900—11,503.

Population in 1881—9,382; 1891—10,165.
Name of Medical Officer of Health—HENRY CHRISTOPHER DARBY.

Mortality per 1,000 of population living during same period:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Birth Rate 32·9 | Death Rate, 17·3 | (a) Zymotic Death Rate 3·8 |
| Phthisis Death Rate 26 | (c) Resp. Death Rate 2·4 | Smallpox Death Rate Nil. |
| Scarlatina Death Rate 43 | Diphtheria and Membranous Croup Death Rate 17 | Whooping Cough Death Rate .08 |
| (d) Fever Death Rate 17 | (e) Diarrhoea Death Rate .60 | |
| (f) Enteritis Death Rate 1·04 | Cancer, Malignant Disease Death Rate .78 | |

| | Small Pox | Measles | Scarlatina | Diphtheria | Membranous Croup | Fever. | Erysipelas | Puerperal Fever. |
|----------------|-----------|---------|------------|------------|------------------|--------|------------|------------------|
| Cases ... | ... | ... | 68 | 3 | 0 | 21 | 12 | 2 |
| Deaths ... | ... | ... | 27 | 2 | | 2 | | 2 |
| Hospital Cases | ... | | 8 | | | 6 | | |
| " Deaths | ... | | 1 | | | 3 | | |

Diseases Prevalent—Scarlet Fever and Measles.
Schools Closed—Lye and Wollescote and Cemetery Read Board Schools, (infant depts.), and Lye National School, (infant dept.)

Period—Latter half of year.

TABLE I.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LYE AND WOLLESCOTE,

FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

| Year. | Population estimated to Middle of each Year. | BIRTHS. | | DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE. | | DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL. | | DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. |
|-----------------------------|--|---------|-------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| | | Number. | Rate. | Number. | Rate per 1,000 Births registered. | Number. | Rate. | |
| 1897 | 10692 | 386 | 36·1 | 69 | 178 | 173 | 1·91 | |
| 1898 | 10779 | 382 | 35·4 | 65 | 170 | 200 | 18·5 | |
| 1899 | 11464 | 396 | 34·5 | 72 | 181 | 193 | 16·8 | |
| Average for years 1897-1899 | 10971 | 388 | 35·3 | 66 | 176 | 188 | 17·1 | |
| 1900 | 11503 | 379 | 32·9 | 57 | 150 | 200 | 13 | <i>(F·3 W·8)</i> |

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).—784

Total population at all ages, 10165; Number of inhabited houses, 1975; Average number of persons per house, 5.—At Census of 1891.

TABLE III.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LYME AND WOLLESCOTE.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1900.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. | CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT. | | | | | | No. of cases removed to Hospital. | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------|---------|----------|----------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | At all Ages. | At Ages—Years. | | | | | | |
| | | Under 1 | 1 to 5 | 5 to 15 | 15 to 25 | 25 to 65 | | |
| Small-pox | ... | ... | | | | | | |
| Cholera | ... | ... | | | | | | |
| Diphtheria | ... | 3 | | 2 | | 1 | | |
| Membranous croup | ... | | | | | | | |
| Erysipelas | ... | 12 | | | 1 | | 11 | |
| Scarlet fever | ... | 68 | 2 | 34 | 30 | 1 | 1 | |
| Typhus fever | ... | | | | | | 8 | |
| Enteric fever | ... | 21 | | | 7 | 3 | 11 | |
| Relapsing fever | ... | | | | | | 6 | |
| Continued fever | ... | | | | | | | |
| Puerperal fever | ... | 2 | | | | | 2 | |
| Plague | ... | | | | | | | |
| Totals | ... | 106 | 2 | 36 | 38 | 5 | 25 | |
| | | | | | | | 14 | |

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is a joint hospital for Stourbridge, Lye and Wollescote, and Halesowen Districts, and is situated at Kingswinford.

TABLE IV.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LYME AND WOLLESCOTE.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1900.

| CAUSE OF DEATH. | DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | |
|---|---|---------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | All ages. | Under 1 | 1 and under 5 | 5 and under 15 | 15 and under 25 | 25 and under 65 | 65 and upwards. |
| Small-pox | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Measles | 27 | 3 | 24 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Scarlet fever | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Whooping-cough | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Diphtheria and membranous croup | 2 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Fevers { Typhus | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Fevers { Enteric | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... |
| Fevers { Other continued | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Epidemic influenza | 11 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 6 |
| Cholera | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Plague | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Diarrhoea (see notes) | 7 | 3 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Enteritis (see notes) | 12 | 7 | 4 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Puerperal fever | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Other septic diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Phthisis | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... |
| Other tubercular diseases | 6 | 3 | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... |
| Cancer, malignant disease | 9 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 3 |
| Bronchitis | 16 | 4 | 4 | ... | ... | 7 | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 12 | 3 | 2 | ... | ... | 5 | 2 |
| Pleurisy | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Other diseases of Respiratory organs | 5 | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| Venereal diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Premature birth | 17 | 17 | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Diseases and accidents of parturition | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... |
| Heart diseases | 12 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| Accidents | 4 | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 1 | ... |
| Suicides | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Convulsions | 9 | 8 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| All other causes | 35 | 6 | 2 | ... | ... | 7 | 20 |
| All causes | 200 | 57 | 49 | 8 | 4 | 45 | 37 |

NOTES.—(a) The deaths of residents occurring beyond the limits of the district are to be included in this table, and deaths of non-residents occurring in the District are to be excluded. See note on Table I, as to meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents."

(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars, and, in addition, to be classified under "Public Institutions."

(c) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths certified as from diarrhœa, alone or in combination with some other cause of ill-defined nature; and also deaths certified as from

Epidemic enteritis ;

Zymotic enteritis ;

Epidemic diarrhœa. Summer diarrhœa ;

Dysentery and dysenteric diarrhœa ;

Choleraic diarrhoea, cholera, cholera nostrा (in the absence of Asiatic cholera).

Under the heading of "Enteritis" are to be included those certified as from Gastro-enteritis, Muco-enteritis and Gastric catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants, under the specific term "Diarrhœa."

Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

HENRY C. DARBY, *Medical Officer of Health.*

February 12, 1901.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE

Lye & Wollescote Urban District Council,

For the year ending December 31st, 1900.

| | |
|--|------|
| No. of cases enquired into | 206 |
| „ of houses disinfected and cleansed | 266 |
| „ of patients removed to Hospital | 14 |
| „ Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected or destroyed | 2 |
| „ Houses erected, (if information obtainable) ... | 22 |
| „ made fit for habitation | 36 |
| „ cleansed and lime-washed | 293 |
| „ of cases of overcrowding abated | 14 |
| „ of house-drains laid or relaid | 89 |
| „ cleansed, trapped and ventilated | 14 |
| „ of insanitary lavatories, sinks urinals rectified ... | 3 |
| „ of additional W C.'s provided | 23 |
| „ repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns | 14 |
| „ of additional privies and ashpits provided ... | 29 |
| „ converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets | 16 |
| „ repaired | 48 |
| „ of new dust receptacles provided | 7 |
| „ of houses from which refuse removable ... | 2267 |
| „ of privies and ashpits cleansed | 4226 |
| „ of portable receptacles cleansed | 39 |
| „ of loads of ashes and excrement removed ... | 7128 |
| „ of loads of ashes and refuse removed | 36 |
| „ of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) .. | 41 |
| „ of Slaughter Houses registered or licensed ... | 12 |
| „ of Slaughter Houses regularly inspected ... | 12 |
| „ of Slaughter Houses cleansed and repaired ... | 12 |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Factories and Workshops. | | | | | |
| No. under inspection | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48 |
| „ certified for lime-washing by Inspector | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| „ employing "young persons," &c., reported to Medical officer of Health | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Dairies and Cowsheds. | | | | | |
| „ of persons engaged in milk trade now on register and under supervision | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance. | | | | | |
| „ of cases of removal on notice | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Accumulation of offensive Refuse. | | | | | |
| „ of removals | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Clerical Work. | | | | | |
| „ of official letters written | ... | ... | ... | ... | 296 |
| „ of notices served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 446 |
| „ of notices complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 435 |
| „ of notices outstanding | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |

(Signed)

BENJAMIN THOMPSON,

Sanitary Inspector.

February 26, 1901.

E Moore,
Printer, Stationer, &c.,
High Street, Lye.